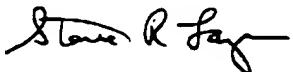


Applicants elected to prosecute the subject matter of these claims. Applicants inadvertently elected to prosecute the same group of claims in the present application. For that reason, Applicants now withdraw the earlier election and instead elect to prosecute the claims of Group IV in the present application. This election is made with traverse for the following reasons.

The claims of Group IV, relating to purified polypeptides, and Groups VI and VII, relating to antibodies to the polypeptides of Group IV are not distinct and should be examined together. The skilled artisan, equipped with the peptide sequence of Group IV would readily be able to prepare the antibodies of Groups VI and VII. Once again, there is no substantial reason to require the public to search multiple patent documents to ascertain the patent status of the polypeptide and its antibodies. Accordingly, it is requested that the restriction requirement be modified to include in a single Group the claims of Groups IV, VI and VII. Nevertheless, because election is required, applicants hereby elect to prosecute the claims of Group IV.

Respectfully submitted,



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